The proposed merger between XM and Sirius needs to be stopped.

While the merger may be beneficial to stockholders (of which I am one),
there is simply no way that it can be beneficial to consumers. There is
a reason that some consumers choose XM and some choose Sirius. That
reason is that they are different companies with different offerings.
Both have different types of musical channels. Both have different types
of comedy channels. And most importantly to me personally, both have
different types of talk radio channels. I chose XM, because they had the
channels that I was most interested in.

The biggest problem with the merger will be the lack of choice that
consumers will have. Regardless of what anyone says, it would be foolish
of a company to pay two channels, be they talk, music, lifestyle, etc.,
to compete with each other. It may happen for a while, but soon enough,
it will all fall out to be what most people want, or whatever they can
cost justify. The people who subscribe to satellite radio are not
interested in what most people want. If they were, they would still be
listening to terrestrial radio, as most people do. In this situation,
while decisions made based on cost justifications and shareholder value
may be great for the company, they are not great for the customers.

This bit about the companies needing to merge because they are competing
with internet radio, ipods, and the like is nonsense. I will grant that
some people will may choose an ipod over satellite radio, but those
people aren't interested in choices. They have pre-determined their
content. I have both, but I prefer satellite radio, because I choose not
to spend hours determining what I want to listen too.

Put simply, this deal is about money. There is no realistic way that

anyone can say that consumers will be better off. Consumers

Eric Holder

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Consumers<o:p></o:p></p
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<p class=3DMsoNormal><span
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